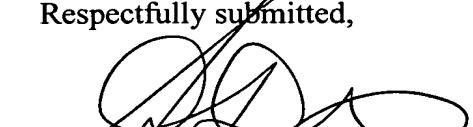


**REMARKS**

The subject application is the national phase application of PCT/EP/2003/012659 filed November 12, 2003, which claims priority to an earlier filed German Patent Application No. 202 17 983.4 filed November 20, 2002.

Claims 1-8 are pending in the subject application. By this preliminary amendment, the original claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies, and in general, to place the claims in condition for examination. No new matter has been presented by these amendments. Early and favorable consideration of the subject application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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